
From: Benjamin Zucker <ben@stepuplouisiana.org>
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Subject: Redistricting Testimony

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Name: Benjamin Zucker

Address: 3116 Cleveland Ave. New Orleans, LA 70119

Hello, my name is Benjamin Zucker and I've been a resident of New Orleans for many years.

New Orleans has grown in population by over 40,000 residents since the the 2010 census and should have another state house district in the Mid City neighborhood where I live. We should also end the practice of Prison Gerrymandering and count incarcerated people in their home community jurisdiction. We need another majority minority senate district in Jefferson Parish on the West Bank.

I urge you to draw fair and equitable district lines across our state. There is no reason for New Orleans to be packed into the same congressional district as Baton Rouge. To fairly represent the State of Louisiana in Congress, there must be additional Majority Minority congressional districts added. New Orleans is a historically and majority Black city with additional "minority" representation from Vietnamese, Honduran, and Middle Eastern communities. Surrounding parishes are showing similar increases in minority representation, making it high time for the Greater New Orleans area and surrounding parishes to be in their own congressional district, separate from Baton Rouge.

In conclusion, we need a more majority minority districts so that African American voting power is not reduced by being either "packed" into a limited number of districts or African American voting power is not reduced by being "cracked" and dispersed across several districts.

Thank you,

Benjamin Zucker

Co-Director Step Up Louisiana